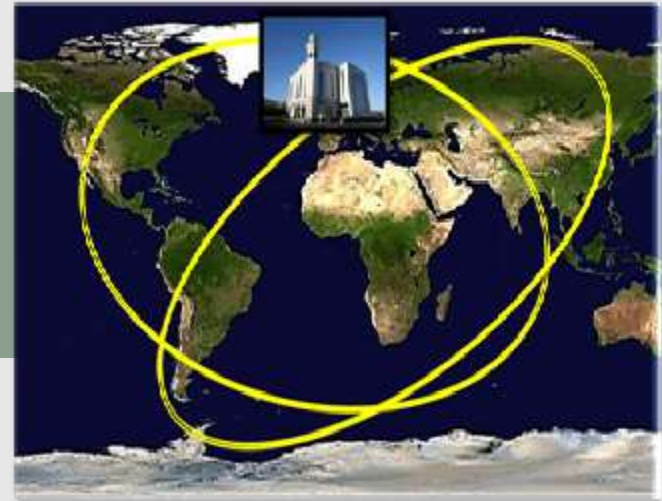


FOLLOW THE COMMANDMENTS OF THE HOLY QURAN



SERMON DELIVERED BY HADHRAT
MIRZA MASROOR AHMAD (ABA);
HEAD OF THE AHMADIYYA MUSLIM
COMMUNITY



RELAYED LIVE ALL ACROSS THE
GLOBE

26th July 2013

NOTE: Al Islam Team takes full responsibility for any errors or miscommunication in this Synopsis of the Friday Sermon

Summary

As explained in last Friday sermon, the month of Ramadan and the Holy Qur'an have a particular affinity.

Therefore, we should recite the Qur'an during Ramadan, reflect over its directives and commandments and make these as part of our lives.

Some of the Commandments God.

Do not associate anyone or anything with God

Show Kindness to parents, their mistreatment is forbidden.

Do not kill your children for fear of poverty.

**Month of
Ramadhan and
Holy Quran has
particular
affinity**

**Directives of
God**

Do not associate
anyone or
anything with God

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parents, their
mistreatment is
forbidden

Do not Kill Your
Children

Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih recited the following verses 152-154 of Surah Al An'am

'Say, 'Come, I will rehearse to you what your Lord has made inviolable for you: that you may not associate anything with Him as a partner and that you must treat parents with exceeding kindness, and that you kill not your children for fear of poverty – it is We Who provide for you and for them – and that you approach not foul deeds, whether open or secret; and that you kill not the life which Allah has made sacred, save by right. That is what He has enjoined upon you, that you may understand.

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Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih recited the following verses 152-154 of Surah Al An'am

And approach not the property of the orphan, except in *a way* which is best, till he attains his maturity. And give full measure and weight with equity. We task not any soul except according to its capacity. And when you speak, observe justice, even if *the concerned person* be a relative, and fulfil the covenant of Allah. That is what He enjoins upon you, that you may remember.

And say, 'This is My path *leading* straight. So follow it; and follow not *other* ways, lest they lead you away from His way. That is what He enjoins upon you, that you may *become able to guard against evils.*'

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As explained in last Friday sermon, the month of Ramadan and the Holy Qur'an have a particular affinity because the revelation of the Qur'an began in this month.

However, this connection can only avail if our recitation of the Qur'an during Ramadan is done in conjunction with reflecting over its directives and then these directives are made part of our lives.

Otherwise we would not be fulfilling the objective of it being revealed in Ramadan.

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The Promised Messiah
(onwhombe peace) said
'The objective of the Holy
Qur'an was to turn
savage state into
humanness and then
through good manners
make people civilised so
that matters could be
resolved within the
prescribed limits and
directives and then turn
them into godly people.'

'It should also be remembered
that the Holy Qur'an carries
guidance for academic and
practical accomplishments. As
such, '**Guide us on the right
path**' indicates seeking
knowledge while '**The path of
those on whom Thou hast
bestowed Thy blessings...**'
refers to its practical
implementation, so that the best
and perfect results may be
achieved. Unless a sapling grows
and develops properly it cannot
bear flowers or fruits. Similarly,
any guidance that has does not
have most excellent results, is a
dead guidance.'

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A distinct change comes about in
a person who reads the Qur'an
as it ought to be read and follows
its commandments.

High moral values are created
and one becomes a civilised and
godly person ...

... and God has likened this
condition to a blessed tree '**...It
is like a good tree, whose root
is firm and whose
branches reach into heaven.**
(14:25)

The Promised Messiah (on
whom be peace) said.
'The Holy Qur'an is a
guidance through which
its follower attains
excellence and he
develops a connection
with God Almighty. His
good deeds, which are in
accordance to the
directives of the Holy
Qur'an, grow liked a
blessed tree, as mentioned
in the Holy Qur'an. They
bear fruit which develop
a distinctive sweetness
and flavour.'

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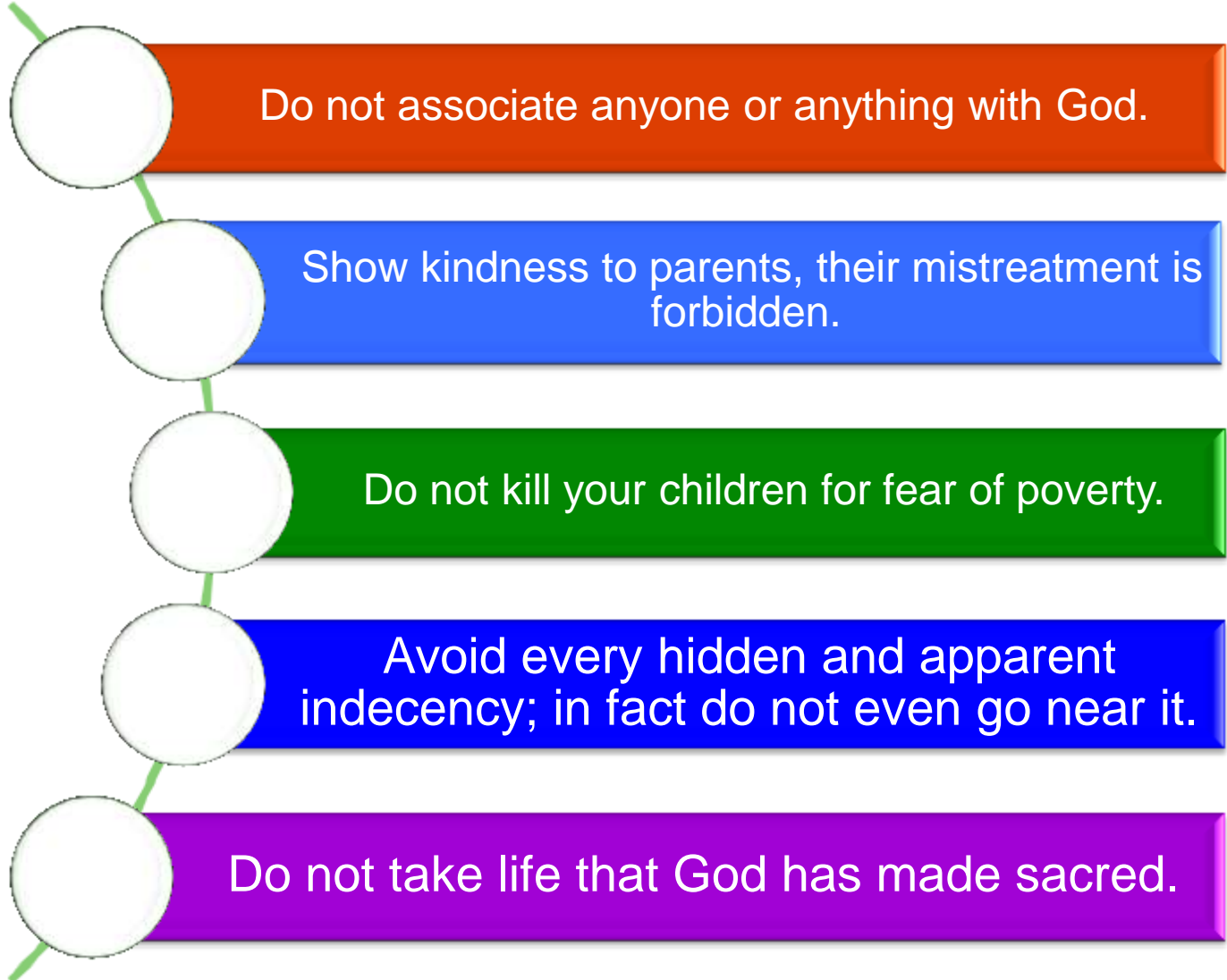
The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said:
'Elucidating this Allah the Exalted likens such a faith to seed and tree here and deeds to watering/irrigation. The Qur'an gives the similitude of a farmer who sows seeds and calls this sowing the seeds of faith. There irrigation works and here, deeds work. It should therefore be remembered that faith without any deeds is like a garden without any water/streams. A tree will dry out if after planting it its owner does not pay attention to water it. It is the same with faith. **'And as for those who strive in Our path...'** (29:70), that is, do not suffice on small attempts, this path requires great striving.'

Indeed, Ramadan draws our attention to [spiritual] striving. While reflecting over the Holy Qur'an and while trying to understand it, we should also put its teaching in practice so that we become those fresh and verdant branches which reach into heaven and which are connected to God.

Month of
Ramadhan and
Holy Quran has
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affinity

In the verses recited at the start of the sermon God has drawn attention to a few directives.

Directives of God



Do not associate
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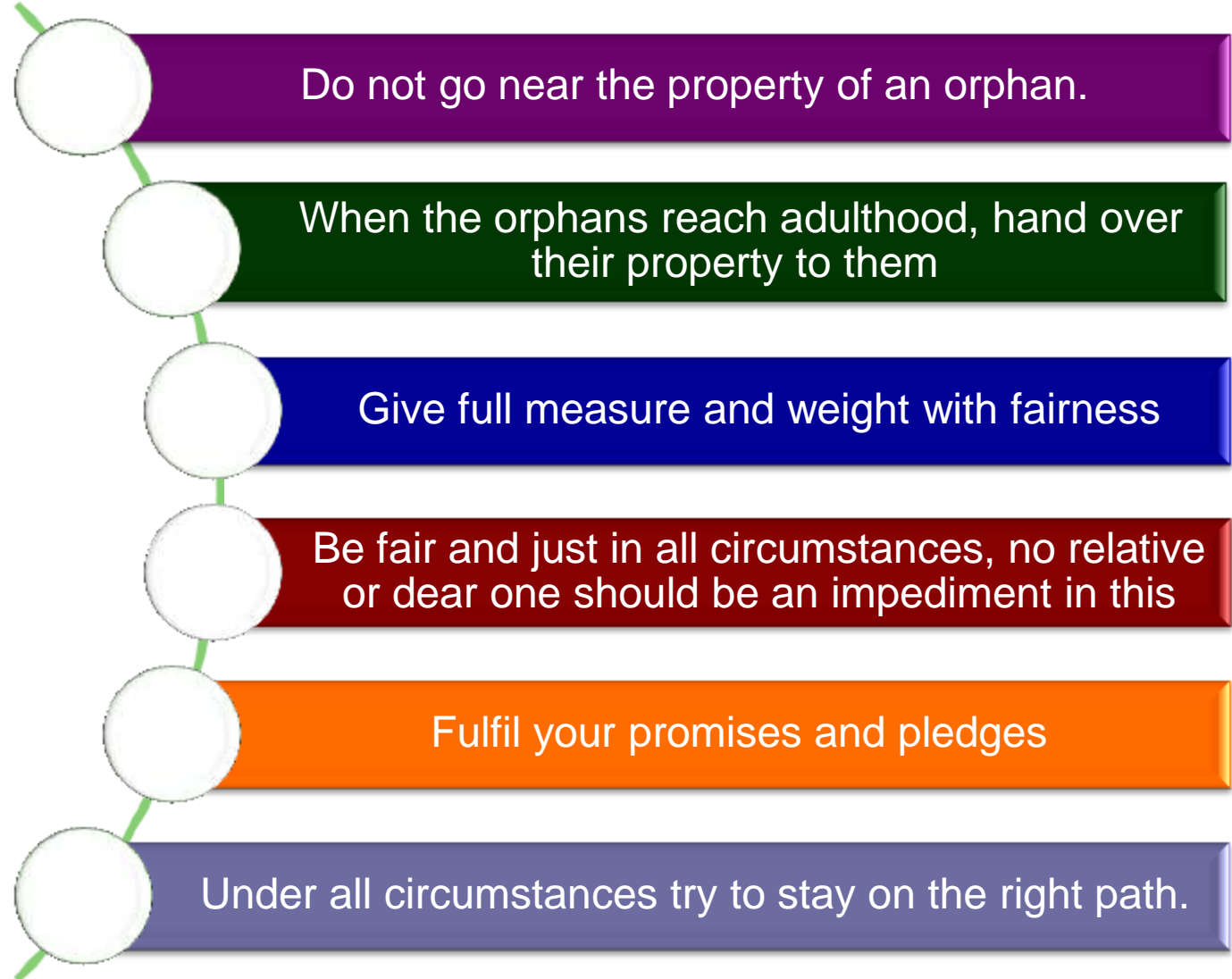
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Directives of God

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God**

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forbidden**

**Do not Kill Your
Children**

Do not associate anyone or anything with God.

The first commandment forbids associating anyone with God.

God has created us, nurtures our mental, physical and spiritual capacities and gives us all the blessings?

Yet, people do not understand and associate partners with God.

... and this is why the first message of Prophets of God is teaching against Shirk; indeed Shirk is an unforgivable sin

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The Promised Messiah (on
whom be peace) said:

Every sin is forgivable but
associating partners with God
is an unforgivable sin.

**‘...Surely, associating
partner; *with God* is a
grievous wrong.’** (31:14)
and

**‘...will not forgive that
any partner be
associated with Him...’**
(4:48)

Here, Shirk does not simply
mean worshipping idols
made of stone. In fact it is
also Shirk to venerate
worldly means and give
importance to worldly idols.

This indeed is Shirk. The
example of sinning is like
smoking Huqqah, giving it
up is not that difficult and
inconvenient while the
example of Shirk is like
taking opium, which is an
impossible habit to break.’

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**The Promised Messiah (on
whom be peace) said:**

**'Shirk is three-fold.
The first kind is general idol-
worship and worship of trees.
This is a broad, common
Shirk.**

**The second kind of Shirk is
when too much reliance is
placed on ways and means..**

**The third kind of Shirk is
whereby one considers
oneself to something
compared to God.**

**'...in this time of
material
advancement, the
Shirk of ways and
means has
increased a lot.'**

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Do not associate anyone or anything with God.

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**The Promised Messiah (on
whom be peace) said:**

**'O people, worship the God
Who has created you, that is,
know that all your tasks
come to pass through Him
and rely on Him. Loyalty is in
keeping a special connection
with God and everything else
should be considered nought
in comparison. '**

**A person who holds
his children or parents
so dear that he
remains concerned
about them all the
time also does a kind
of idol worship. Idol
worship does not only
mean to worship idols
like Hindus, too much
love is also a kind of
worship.'**

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The Promised Messiah (on
whom be peace) said:

‘The real reason for the creation
of mankind is worship. Just as it
is stated elsewhere:

**‘And I have not created the
Jinn and the men but that
they may worship Me.’**
(51:57).

True worship is when man
removes all hardness and
crookedness and makes the
terrain of his heart as clear as a
farmer clears his field .

This is the reason for our
creation and this is the
purpose of Ramadan and
this is the standard of
worship that the Promised
Messiah (on whom be
peace) has taught us.
Once this standard is
attained, man is free from
all kinds of Shirk.

May God enable us to worship
in this manner this Ramadan.

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‘Thy Lord has commanded, ‘Worship none but Him, and *show* kindness to parents. If one of them or both of them attain old age with thee, never say unto them any word expressive of disgust nor reproach them, but address them with excellent speech.’ (17:24)

The second commandment is about kindness to parents. After God it is the parents who look after us and nurture us.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih said that he sadly received complaints that some people show disrespectful behaviour towards their parents.

Sisters write in that brothers even raise their hands to the parents especially in matters of property settlement.

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Show kindness to parents, their mistreatment is forbidden.

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In this country adolescents turn to rudeness
in the name of freedom

Generally speaking after a certain age
youngsters are considered independent
here, it must be understood that not to
show respect to your seniors is in fact
ignorance.

The beautiful teaching of Islam is not to
express any disgust to parents, rather
repay their kindness with kindness
although it is not really possible to repay
the kindness of parents.

Show kindness to parents, their mistreatment is forbidden.

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The beautiful teaching of Islam
teaches the prayer:

**‘My Lord, have mercy on them
even as they nourished me in *my*
childhood.’
(17:25) ‘**

This indeed should be our
standard.

This prayer can be said for parents even
after they have departed from this world
for elevation of their station in the
Hereafter.

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The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said: ‘.. Rububiyyat (Divine quality to sustain and nurture) is a wonder! A baby does not have any kind of strength and his mother takes great care of him in that state and the father gives the mother support in her undertakings. Out of His sheer grace, Allah the Exalted has made two sources to look after fragile creation and has placed a ray of love in them out of the luminosity of His love.

However, it should be remembered that parents’ love is limited and God’s love is real. Unless hearts are inspired by Allah the Exalted, no person, be he a friend, a peer or a ruler, can love another.

It is the secret of the perfect Rububiyyat of God that parents love their children so much that they bear all kind of pains most sincerely while caring for them, so much so that they do not even hesitate to die for the life of their child.’

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After God's
Rububiyyat,
they [parents]
too have a
Rububiyyat
and the
strength of this
Rububiyyat is
also from God
Almighty.' .

'Worship none but Him,
and *show kindness to parents...*' .

*Hadith relates that the Holy
Prophet (peace and blessings of
Allah be on him) said that
disgraced be that person who
experienced old age of his
parents and did not earn
Paradise by serving them.*

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The next commandment is: '**...you kill not your children for fear of poverty...**'. This has many connotations..

Pay such attention to education and training of children that they do not end up being spiritually dead.

When God gave parents the status of Rububiyyat, He made it obligatory on them to look after their children and not kill them.

One meaning of '**...you kill not your children...**' is not giving them good upbringing. .

Do not kill your children for fear of poverty.



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Some fathers do not give enough time and attention to their children due to business commitments and mothers complain that as fathers are not home children go off track.

When children reach teenage, they do particularly need the presence and friendship of fathers as they learn wrong from outside influence.

This is moral killing of one's children. Fathers may say that their time is taken by working hard to make a living for their children but what good is wealth that causes children to lose their way?

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Do not kill your children for fear of poverty.



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At times mothers go out to
work or do not pay attention
to the family home

These women say they work
to meet household
expenses and when they
return home tired, and they
can't pay attention to the
family and neglect which
gravely affects children.

Some working women say
that they have to go out to
work because of their idle
husbands.

Such husbands need to fear
God and being sources of
'killing their children.'

Do not kill your children for fear of poverty.

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Children should be given time and attention.

Parents should give priority to the education, good affiliation with the Jama'at, pious upbringing of their children.

Home environment should be made conducive to pious upbringing so that children can grow up to be useful members of society.

Children receive best upbringing when it is done by both mother and father playing their respective roles.

The trends towards increasing divorce rate and hence increase in single parent families in our Jama'at needs to be addressed .

Parents should sacrifice their egos and preferences for the sake of their children.

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Do not kill your children for fear of poverty.



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May God enable all of us to practice the
commandments of the Holy Qur'an during Ramadan.

Three commandments [from the verses
recited at the start] were explained in
today's sermon, the rest will be explained
another time.